

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steel, Michael on March 24, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 15, lines 1-2, "a computer readable medium" has been changed to - - a non-transitory computer readable medium - -.

Claims 16-36 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. U. S. Publication No. 2004/0199573 to Schwartz et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Schwartz et al. disclose a diagnostics system comprising: a topological map of a target system that has nodes that correspond to components of the target system and links that correspond to connections between the components;

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means for receiving data from one or more sensors on the target system; and means for including either the received data in the topological map and/or data that is a function of that received data. However, Schwartz et al. not teach a knowledge store that has a structure that reflects or corresponds to that of the topological map, the store having a plurality of sections or libraries each of which is provided for storing data associated with one of the nodes defined in the topological map and means for diagnosing faults using the data in the topological map and the knowledge store; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CAROL S. TSAI whose telephone number is (571)272-2224. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ramos-Feliciano S. Eliseo can be reached on (571) 272-7925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

August 17, 2010

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/Carol S Tsai/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2857